

EMERGENCY NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Emergency Operations Center, Camp Murray, Washington
Emergency Management Division, Washington Military Department

For immediate release

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State EOC Activated for Columbia Generating Station Power Plant Incident

CAMP MURRAY -- The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated at 10:09 a.m. today due to a reported failure of the automated reactor shutdown system at the Columbia Generating Station (CGS) Nuclear Power Plant on the Hanford site near Richland. A manual shutdown of the system was conducted. There currently is no threat to the safety of the general public. Under the plant's emergency plan, the State EOC is automatically activated in this situation.

Washington state's present role is to monitor the situation at the CGS Hanford site, and help Benton, Franklin, and surrounding counties if additional emergency actions become necessary.

The Governor's Office has been informed of the incident. Gov. Gary Locke will be updated as appropriate of emergency activities by emergency operations staff.

State emergency personnel are reporting to the center or standing by in case a response by the state is necessary. Staff from the state departments of Military (Emergency Management), Agriculture, Health, Transportation, and the State Patrol are reporting to the Emergency Operations Center.

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